ACTING FEATURE

Play, Masterpiece, of Craftsmanship, Fails to Light Vital Spark.

ETHEL BARRYMORE WINS NEW HONORS

Star in New Role of Emotional Actress Makes Marked Strides in Art.

bout half-way between Folkstone and alogne, midchannel, there's a shoal, Colbar—the French sailormen call it Colbar—we call it the Ridge. I create the rencounter that blessed shoal with-experiencing a most unpleasant time, we crossed on some of the finest days the year. The sun's been shining and side the harbor the water's been as toth as it's been inside. Everything been as enticing as could be; but as neared the ridge, midchannel, I've un to feel fidgety, restless, out of s, hating myself and hating the man had been sharing my cabin with me, the sensation hasn't lasted long * remember the idea once occurring to I spoke to Jim Millindain about it the time, there's a resemblance being that and marriage, and marriage, k you, at its best and brightest. The plest and lucklest of married couples to cross that weetched ridge.

—From Act I, "Mid-Channel."

This is the theme of "Mid-Channel."

This is the theme of "Mid-Channel."

It is striking because the application is so universal and the only wonder is that it should be a topic so little frequented by playwrights who have been going far afield for dramatic material and generally faring much worse. The subject is like the first gong in the hymnal, generally taken for granted, and never sung because it is always there.

But Sir Arthur Wing Pinero added considerably more to the prestige of Ethel Barrymore as an actress than to his reputation as a dramatist in the production at the National last night. Starting on such a refreshing basis it was keenly disappointing when the author failed to delve very deeply into human experience or to reveal any definite ideas on the question he propounded. He furnished some passages of poetic beauty, he turned some neat epigrams, he provided a role in which Ethel Barrymore achieved new distinction, but he did not make many of the auditors forget they were in the theater.

Construction Faultless.

"Zoole," that she had made a sad mess of things. The only way to straighten to the things. The old ground of a capacity house was out last night to take heart. As he is ejected from a theatrication of the belgiony, which she did. This conclusion had a double merit—it did not commit the artistic sin of foisting a happen ending unon such a bunch of troubles and she couldn't come back to explain why she did that.

It all looks like a highly drawn hypothetical case. It might happen, but the face agad. "No man is a failtre did nuch to the two burtesques that until he admits it himself," says Fred Mrkic, the newspaper man. The country boy returns home—a fargely due to the sood acting of Ethel Barrymore, she will have to be called flare. Colt now if she insists on a prefix, and the other members of the cast. Miss Barrymore has grown wonderfully in artistic stature. It was not to be expected that she should gain in a single season the pre-eminence in a new field that was hers in the old. There were divined when the hasty delivery of lines."

All those incidents do not seem so unreal as one sits in the theater. This is largely due to the scool acting of Ethel Barrymore, she will have to be called three colon and the production of the productio and the other members of the cast. Miss Barrymore has grown wonderfully in artistic stature. It was not to be expected that she should gain in a single geason the pre-eminence in a new field that was hers in the old. There were times when the hasty delivery of lines and a rather dispassionate manner of speech recalled that this actress had never pretended to emotional expression. But she displayed the fullness of her new accomplishments in the scene with her husband in the third act.

A stodgy, "well-to-do" type of husband, a "good provider," without imagination enough to exercise the quality of mercy was eloquently portrayed by Charles Dalton. The playwright required him to turn some analytical somersaults for explanations which it did not seem a Dalton would have made. The lighter lines, those in which Pinero scels, were assigned to H. Reeves the who delivered them effectively. Some Pinero Philosophy.

Some Pinero Philosophy.

One of these speeches is worth reprinting:

printing:

I often wonder if there's anything more depressing than to see the row of trophies standin' on the sideboard. That silver glit vase there, the old horse that gained it for you is lyin' in the paddock with a stone atop of him, and you're usin' his hoof for an inkpot. The gobiets you won on the river and the cups you helped yourself to on the links, there's a little pile of ashes in the bottom of every one of 'em. And so it is with life generally: You scoop in the prizes and there are the pots on the sideboard to remind you that it ain't the prizes that counts, but the pushin' and the strugglin', and the cheerin'.

helen Freeman, as Mrs. Annerly, wasn't a particularly impressive vampire. Miss Louise Drew gave a proper touch of unsophistication to the role of a very young girl whose love affairs were also caught in the all engulfing mesh of Zoe's indiscretions.

The leading "Tame Robin" was the most consistent role in the lot, and was well played by Eugene O'Brien. Mr. O'Brien's features are too youthful to suggest he was thirty-two, but that might be remedied by a more careful makeup.

makeup.

If "Mid-Channel" hadn't tried to be so tragic it raight afford a highly profitable evening. J. R. HILDEBRAND.

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I want any person who sulters with bilinousness, constipation, indigestion or any liver or blood allment, to try my Paw-Paw Liver Pills. I guarantee they will purify the blood and put the liver and stomach into a healthful condition and will positively cure biliousness and constipation, or I will refund your money.—Munyon's Eomecpathic Home Remedy Co., 53rd and Jefferson Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

GOOD PLAY WELL ACTED "COUNTRY BOY" VERDICT



SCENE FROM "THE COUNTRY BOY." Charlotte Ives and W. Dudley Hawley As They Appear In Act II.

Edgar Selwyn Drama Presents Theme Novel to Stage. Action Abounds in Human Interest, Pathos, and Humor—Cast Is Capable.

the auditors forget they were in the theater.

Construction Faultless.

Of course "Mid-Channel" was worked out in faultless Pinero style. Granting the premises, that this woman of thirty-seven years who adored her husband, might commit indiscretions in Italy and that the husband in the meanwhile might be doing the same thing in London one month after they had broken a fourteen years partnership, the them is worked out with keen and relentless fatality.

The most remarkable thing about Zoe Blundell, the wife, was the quality as humanity in itself, is "The Country Boy," at the Columbia this week.

"The Country Boy" is still enjoying a successful run in New York. Washington has not seen the original company. But it is to be doubted that it can offer a more creditable presentation of Edgar. Selwyn's play than company B. which Henry B. Harris has now started upon a tour. The company seen at the Columbia this week.

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TARRHA!

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At All

Druggists

A play that abounds in human interest, in pathos, and in human, in bright lines and laugh-producing situations, one that is founded on an idea rather novel to the stage, but which is as old as humanity in itself, is "The Country Boy," at the Columbia this week.

"The Country Boy" is still enjoying a successful run in New York. Washington has not seen the original company, but it is to be doubted that it can offer a more creditable presentation of Edgar Selwyn's play than company B, which Henry B. Harris has now started upon a tour. The company seen at the Columbia the company of the plece. The boarding house scene in the second act is rich in humor and true to life. Ask those who have been there.

Ethel Clayton has the role of Amy Leroy, the frivolous' show girl, and Charlotte ives is Jane Belknap, the village belle that the country boy forgot for the time being. One is as vain and

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ture, leaves her with weakened

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And Audience Forgets Trou- Christy Mathewson and

play talents in her peculiar forte.

Aphasia and Judy's naughty right eye cause all of the trouble and most of the fun. Judy and her husband are on their honeymoon when the curtain rises for the prologue and sad to relate they are quarreling. The eye is responsible for this. Judy has a most they are quarreling. The eye is responsible for this. Judy has a most reprehensible way of winking at every man she sees. Of course she cannot help it, but the men don't know that, and shower her with bouquets and smiles and motor. The court transfer of the complete the bill. and notes. This starts trouble and Judy leaves Freddle in the Swiss Inn, CASINO—Vaudeville. where they had seen so little and spent so much and starts for Marienbad be seen at the Casino : is week i alone. En route the train is wrecked there are plenty of good laughs. and Judy is injured and wakes up to find that she has lost her memory. In she imagines her husband, there is fun

in plenty. real plot, and there is every indication at first that there is one, but it is lost track of, and at the finish no one really cares whether it is found or not. There are two things that make "Judy Forgot" worth while: one of these is Marie Cahill and the other the music.

Musical Numbers Galore.

There are almost a score of musical numbers, and Miss Cahill's "Good Morning, Judge," Whoop La-La," Since the play was an expansional factory of the spuricus of a lesser degree by other characters, a psychologist's ability to analyze every emotion as she tread the singuis path a cruel playwright blazed for her. There weren't many "nice" persons in "Mid-Channel," but most of them would have won more sympatry had they desisted from talking about their sitss, analyzing them, explaining their sitss, analyzing them, explaining their sits, analyzing them. The country boy in Services by a mother who means to help by its the prototype of hand it was a little hard to explain just why she went wrong. The first act leads one to believe it was because she had an unsympathetic husband, later it seemed that her "tame rebins," a pet name she had for her men friends were at fault, but she unset both theories by explaining it was because she had an unsympathetic husband, later it seemed that her "tame rebins," a pet name she had for her men friends were at fault, but she unset both theories by explaining it was because she had an unsympathetic husband, later it seemed that her "tame rebins," a pet name she had for her men friends were at fault, but she unset both theories by explaining it was because she had an any sympathetic husband, later it seemed that her "tame rebins," a pet name she had for her men friends were at fault, but she unset both theories by explaining it was because she had an unsympathetic husband, later it seemed that her "tame rebins," a pet name she had for her men friends were at fault, but she unset both theories by explaining it was because she had an any sympathetic husband, later it seemed that her "tame rebins," a pet nature of the play get of the play "Thinky, Thanky, Thunk," and "Turk-ish Love Song" were some of the best.

And Audience Forgets Troubles in Merry Musical

Evening.

Washirgton society in brilliant array filled the boxes and almost every seat in the house at the Belasco and gave an entitusiastic greeting to a Capital favorite. Marie Cahill, last night.

The tribute in great meesure was personal, for while "Judy Forget" is bright any merit and would suffer by comparison with some musical productions the Capital has seen this season.

As Judy, the star loses her temper, her memory, and her suitcases, but as Marie Cahill she has lost none of her suitcase, but as Marie Cahill she has lost none of her with some musical productions the Capital has seer concerned the sale of the New York Polo Grounds, assisted by Miss May Tulley, appear in assisted by Miss May Tulley, appear in the house, but this speedily thawed out of doors seemed to make itself felt in the heuse, but this speedily thawed out under the genial atmosphere which "Judy Forgot" disseminated and isters of the course it traveled, was been defined the section of this wife, and if you are not a Yan when you, go you will be one before you leave, hus concerned the town of portunity of witnessing an imaginary baseball game between the Glanual League today. The Natioral League today the Natioral League today in the Natioral League today in the Natioral League today in a baseball comedy by Bozeman Bulger, and they be accepted by Rozeman Bulger, and they be accepted by Rozeman Bulger, and they be accepted by Rozeman Bulger, and forth by the tric, and if you are lable to go over you. This fifteen minutes or more of Kathleen C'Connor, and forth by the tric, and if you are lable to go over you. This fifteen minutes or more of the hand of Lesura Walkins, personal to the task.

The best feature of "Judy Forget" is the fact that the role of Judy gives the star an admirable opportunity to distinct of the provided by the control of this wife, and the provided by Rozeman Bulger, and the provided by Rozeman Bulger, and the provided by Rozeman Bulger, and the provided by Rozeman B

A well balanced and varied bill is to be seen at the Casino this week in which Castellane Brothers, expert bicycle riders, who performed on nearly every the ensuing complications brought about known style of wheel, were close comby a mistake in sultcases and a youth petitors with Van Lear and company,

Many At Club Sale.

The sale by the Gentlewoman's League, at Sis Connecticut avenue. was generously patronized yesterday by members of Washington society. An innovation was made in the plan of previous sales, that being the serving of luncheon from 12 to 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

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